Ravalli County Commissioners 215 S. 4th Street, Suite A Hamilton, MT. 59840 406-375-6500

February 28, 2007

Lyn Hellegaard Missoula Ravalli TMA 2820 S. Higgins Avenue Missoula, MT 59801

Dear Ms. Hellegaard,

Please accept this as the Ravalli County Commissioner's endorsement of the 'I ride vanpool program fleet replacement and expansion projects' proposed by The Missoula Ravalli Transportation Management Association.

We recognize several benefits to the communities located in the counties of Missoula, Ravalli, Lake, Mineral, Sanders, Butte Silver Bow, Jefferson, Lewis and Clark as a whole being achieved through this project. The project addresses many TDM and safety goals that have been discussed by the local Transportation Advisory Committees.

- This project will continue to provide a vital connection between the communities located on the Highway 93 corridor, the urban communities of Missoula and Kalispell.
- This project will continue to provide a much needed transportation options to employment opportunities for low to moderate income Montanans.
- This project would begin providing a much needed transportation option which will allow for individuals to live in their community of choice.
- This project would begin providing a much needed transportation option which allow for home ownership when it would be financially impossible in the urban communities.
- This project will address some congestion issues on many of Montana's commuter routes.

We understand this is one of the many needed steps for expanding transportation in Montana and are looking forward to our continued cooperative relationship.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF RAVALLI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Greg Chilcott, Chair

Alan Thompson, Member

Howard W. Lyons, Member